

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-24 are pending in the application, with Claims 1-13 having been cancelled and Claims 14-24 having been added by way of the present preliminary amendment. Support for new Claims 14-24 is found in Applicants originally filed specification. No new matter is added.

Accordingly, examination of Claims 14-24 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870
Michael E. Monaco
Registration No. 52,041

Customer Number

22850

Tel.: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413-2220

EHK/MEM/kkn

I:\ATTY\MM\AMENDMENT\1076\248262.PRE..DOC